GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:881
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2016
NATGRID Database
K. Shri Parasuraman;Lekhi Smt. Meenakashi

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to revive National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) to access real-time intelligence data and if so, the details thereof and the break-up of expenditure in setting up the same;

(b) the time by which NATGRID is likely to be fully operationalised;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to integrate a strict privacy safeguard mechanism and safety protocols in the NATGRID database as it contains sensitive and private information of citizens (such as credit card details, residential proof, bank, visa immigration trains and air travels, details and other transactions) in order to prevent misuse of data;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the NATGRID, which is only a real-time database, comes under the purview of "intelligence and security organisations" and is thus, exempted from the Right to Information (RTI) Act; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

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(a): The Government has mandated NATGRID to create a frame work for data access from 21 provider organizations. The year-wise break-up of expenditure in setting up NATGRID is as under:

Year Expenditure (Rs. in crores)
2009-10 0.075
2010-11 10.19
2011-12 18.61
2012-13 9.68
2013-14 29.03
2014-15 30.63
2015-16 (Upto 31.01.2016) 49.50 (Provisional)

(b): The timeline for implementation of NATGRID project is 30th June 2017.

(c) & (d): Yes Sir, An Audit Committee headed by Deputy National Security Advisor has been constituted to audit the manner in which the data is accessed and sought to be used.

(e) & (f): Yes, Sir. The NATGRID comes under the purview of 'Intelligence and Security Organizations' and is exempted from the RTI Act, 2005 vide Gazette of India dated 9th June, 2011, G.S.R. 442(E) issued by the DOP&T.
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